

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): David T. Green et al.

Continuation of:

Serial No.: 09/957,620

Group: To be assigned

Filed: Concurrently herewith

Dated: January 8, 2004

Docket: 1253CIPCONFWC3CON2 (203-630CIPCONFWC3CON2)

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR APPLYING SURGICAL STAPLES TO  
ATTACH AN OBJECT TO BODY TISSUE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:


**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 3 of this paper.

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**CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.10**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on this date January 8, 2004 in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mail Label No. EL 985195477 US addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
Russell R. Kassner